



FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

SUMMER ISSUE—JUNE 2001



Hannah Lederman

Access Services Volunteer Receives Volunteer Fairfax Senior Volunteer Award

Hannah Lederman, 89 and visually impaired, travels by MetroAccess to Library Access Services in the Government Center every week, in all kinds of weather. She is an avid patron of the Library's Talking Books program, which lends books and magazines to people with visual disabilities.

But Hannah has taken her interest an extra step by volunteering over 500 hours helping to process tapes so that others can enjoy them. According to Carole McElvain, her supervisor, Hannah is faster at this than "youngsters in their 50's, 60's and 70's!"

On April 24th, she received well-deserved recognition for this and her other advocacy efforts for visually impaired people when Volunteer Fairfax presented her with the Senior Volunteer Award at a County ceremony at the McLean Hilton. She was one of only eleven awardees chosen from over 200 outstanding volunteer leaders in the community.

Other Library nominees were:

Allen Deschere, Marty Smith, Ellen Comeau, Stefanie Tompkins, and Janet Jensen (Library Administration Virtual Library Project Team)

Bob Taylor, Pam Greene, Chuck Caputo, George McConnell, Marlene Parker (Chantilly Regional Library Technology Team)

Sven Johnson (Friends of the Fairfax City Regional Library)

Helen Langford (Friends of George Mason Regional Library)

Eric Tongren and Beth Smith (Pohick Regional Library)

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FOR INFORMATION ON VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES,
CONTACT KATE WANDERER, 703-324-8332

Star Volunteers Recognized by Library Board

On April, 11th, 2001 the Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees recognized 48 Star Volunteers at a dinner at Squire Rockwell's Restaurant and ceremony at George Mason Regional Library. Honorees were selected from over 3,200 individuals who volunteered for the Library in FY 2001. Receiving awards for 1,000, 3,000, and 7,500 hours of service and for exceptional projects and performance were:

Administration

Manisha Das - Exceptional Service
Marge Fare - 3000+ Hours
Anita Lamkin - 3000+ Hours
Margo McPhillips - Exceptional Service
Lisa Taylor - Exceptional Service

Access Services

Hannah Lederman - Exceptional Service

Centreville Regional Library

Sharon Lenius - 1000+ Hours

Chantilly Regional Library

Hap Kwiatkowski - 1000+ Hours
Robert McKenna - Exceptional Service
Karen Stark - Exceptional Service

John Marshall Community Library

Louise Baylis - 1000+ Hours

Fairfax City Regional Library

Sven Johnson - Exceptional Service
Jon Reiser - Exceptional Service
Malcolm Richardson - 7500+ Hours
Mary Shugrue - 1000+ Hours

George Mason Regional Library

Helen Langford - Exceptional Service

Kingstowne Community Library

Robin Coll - Exceptional Service
Kathy Poush - Exceptional Service
Liz Townsend - Exceptional Service
Rob Townsend - Exceptional Service

Lorton Community Library

Janet Baity - 1000+ Hours
Laura Brum - 1000+ Hours
Sharon Jones - Exceptional Service
Arnold Zimmer - 7500+ Hours

Pohick Regional Library

Dan Schimmel - 1000+ Hours
Beth Smith - 1000+ Hours
Eric Tongren - 7500+ Hours

Reston Regional Library

Janet Baxter - 1000+ Hours
Dorothy Carter - 1000+ Hours
Margret Elliott - Exceptional Service
Charly Karlsson - 1000+ Hours
Kathy Nevins - 1000+ Hours
Jean Taczak - Exceptional Service
Mary Stolach - Exceptional Service
Gloria Urias - 1000+ Hours
Melody Warner - 1000+ Hours

Sherwood Regional Library

Bunmi Esho - Exceptional Service
Richard Higgins - 1000+ Hours
Pat Misage - 3000+ Hours
Beverly Morse - Exceptional Service
Sheila Sheehan - 3000+ Hours

Thomas Jefferson Community Library

Louise Terrill - Exceptional Service
Hannelore Aronstein - Exceptional Service

Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library

Thomas Wu - Exceptional Service

Woodrow Wilson Library

Kay Dameron - 3000+ Hours
Jack Keith - Exceptional Service
Marie Langbart - 1000+ Hours
Isaac Rusangiza - Exceptional Service

Congratulations to our Star Volunteers! To read about their individual achievements, visit www.co.fairfax.va.us/library/volunteer/.

Volunteer Steps Up Contribution to Community through Corporate Foundation

For five years, **Bob McKenna** has spent two days a week repairing books and adding donated materials to Chantilly Library's collection. These efforts have been worth thousands of dollars of "value-added" for grateful Chantilly patrons. But Bob also contributes to library service across the County by choosing to participate in the ExxonMobil Foundation's volunteer program, through which he has earned \$3,600 in donations for the Fairfax County Public Library Foundation to match his volunteer service hours. The Foundation has used the donations to contribute books, materials, programs and technology to the Library community. In April, Bob received a Star Volunteer Exceptional Service Award from the Library Board of Trustees for his outstanding contributions.

Corporate programs like ExxonMobil's, which offer employees and retirees the oppor-

tunity to nominate their favorite non-profits for grants to match their volunteer hours, have been developed by many community-minded businesses. Other role models in northern Virginia are AMS, Verizon, UPS, Intel, Prudential, Bank of America, Fannie Mae, and AT & T.



Does your business or organization offer you an opportunity to enhance your volunteer effort via company grants or donations? If so, please consider nominating the Fairfax County Public Library Foundation as a recipient. If not, perhaps you can be the catalyst for starting a program in your workplace. To learn more about the Foundation's contributions to library users, visit www.fcplfoundation.org/.

"There is no better
exercise for the heart
than reaching down
and lifting people up."

Bernard Meltzer

The Tech Force is with You!

Did you know that in the last ten months, Tech Force volunteers have provided one-on-one Internet tutorials to nearly 2,000 library users all over the County? Kudos to FCPL's pioneer technology volunteer group - the Chantilly Regional Library TNT Volunteers - who gave the first tutorials back in 1995. Recently their supervisor, Jill Freeman, nominated them for a Volunteer Fairfax Award, and shared some of their experiences:

From **Chuck Caputo**, "You can actually see the students' faces light up when they understand that they have acquired the know-how of surfing the net... When senior folks see their hometown newspapers, ... they begin to comprehend the vast universe of information available to them..."

From **Marlene Parker**, "Last week I worked with a delightful young man, a 7th grader, who has just been in this country for three months. He was playing catch-up with his classmates and friends because he had never had access to computers before he came to this country..."

Robert Taylor describes a good arrangement for tutoring a deaf student and sign language interpreter: "...I pulled up the Signing Language program on the computer... This made me realize how to arrange the chairs to place the patron at the computer and the interpreter to her right. I sat slightly back of the direct line of sight between them. This allowed the patron to see the interpreter and me without moving her head..."

Pam Green observes "every training session is different. The patrons are all ages and from many different cultures. They also have different levels

of computer experience. So I never get bored and almost never have the same exact questions. I usually begin the training by showing them the basics of using the Internet, the icons, and the introduction to the FCPL home page. .. I ask them what they are interested in and I show them how to find their information and bookmark it. I also always spend a couple of minutes discussing credit card security cautions and adult content on the Web. I recommend that they always pre-check information before they show their children."

From **George McConnell**, "Often a patron can hardly believe it can be so easy to create a simple web page. Many people seem to feel that they can't design a web page because they can't understand the Internet. I sometimes use a library analogy for comparison. It is very easy to browse the library shelves, a little more difficult to search for a specific subject or book, and quite a bit more difficult to write a book. Yet in order to write a book, we do not have to understand how the book is distributed by the publisher or how the library manages to keep track of such a large collection. Creating a web page has many parallels to writing a book. The Internet, like book distribution or library collection management, is complex, but you do not have to know very much about it to create a web page."

Thank you, Chantilly, for leadership in technology volunteerism. Interested in signing up for a free Internet tutorial? Most branches now offer them; call your neighborhood library for information or go to www.co.fairfax.va.us/library and visit the Programs and Events pages.

Seasonal Teaching Opportunities at Glen Forest Elementary School

Glen Forest Elementary School will begin the Modified School Calendar during 2001-2002. Suzette Adams, Intersession Coordinator, seeks teachers to teach remediation and enrichment classes during the Intersessions (10/9-10/19, 1/2-1/11, and 4/4-4/12). These paid positions (from \$20-\$30 per hour) are ideal for retired and resigned teachers, college students, individuals with flexible work schedules, and other persons interested in teaching a personal hobby to children. Classes range from sewing, art, music, dance, photography, and cooking to math, reading, social studies, technology and science. Full-day (8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) and part-day (8 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) teachers are needed. The school is located at 5829 Glen Forest Drive, Falls Church, VA 22041. For more information call Suzette Adams at (703) 578-8055, Ext. 8000.

Change the World... VOLUNTEER!

Please share the following volunteer opportunities with a friend, neighbor, or family member. We need more people just like you to help us keep offering world class library service!

Usher at Concerts!

Music lovers needed for occasional ushering at the award-winning Rising Stars Concerts sponsored by the Music Friends of the Fairfax County Public Library and held at the Alden Theatre (McLean). The season begins in September. Call **Anita Lamkin** at (703) 324-8344.

Do reference work!

Volunteers with MLS degree (or candidate) needed for public service.

Check books out!

Many branches need help on public service circulation desks. Bilingual (English and Spanish, Korean, or Vietnamese) especially helpful at some branches.

Learn a new software!

The Library Foundation seeks volunteer with excellent typing skills to learn Raiser's Edge fundraising software and maintain donor files. Since 1995, the Foundation has transferred to the Library cash and in-kind gifts exceeding \$1,000,000, including more than \$270,000 for the purchase of recorded books.

Be a Tape Doctor!

Repair audiotapes and videotapes at branches and at Library Administration (Government Center, weekday, daytime hours.)

Be a Bookie!

Are you an avid reader? Share your passion by starting or assisting with a book discussion group at one of our branch libraries or at a retirement center. Special need for book discussion on Hispanic authors. Flexible schedule, five hours per month.

Be an Intern!

The Library offers academic internships for college and graduate school students in library science, information technology, education, English literature, marketing, media, and many other fields.

Research grants!

Associate Director seeks volunteer with Internet, word processing, research, and communication skills to join a team of grant researchers and writers. Minimum commitment is 4 hours per week for 9 months, including meetings every other Tuesday at 11 a.m.

Tell stories!

Spanish/English-speaking storyteller needed for children's programs at Herndon Fortnightly Library. Volunteers with background in children's librarianship welcomed at many branches for programs and book talking.

Training provided for all positions. For information call Kate Wanderer, (703) 324-8332. Visit our web site at http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/library/volunteer/vol_home.htm and click on Volunteer Programs to view position descriptions, online application form, and articles featuring FCPL volunteers.



Treasure Your Library!

Among summer treasures at the Library:

- The 2001 all-new Summer Reading Program for preschoolers through teens, with coupon booklet of free and discounted prizes, plus hundreds of free programs. Sign up starting June 19th!
- Vacation reading, books-on-tape, discussions, and Internet training for adults.

For details, stop at your local library today for your free copy of This Month, or visit our Web site at www.co.fairfax.va.us/library.

Summer Reading Programs are made possible by a generous \$25,000 grant from the Friends of the George Mason Regional Library, a donation by the Friends of the Fairfax City Regional Library, and Friends groups of individual branches. Several programs are sponsored by grants from Salomon Smith Barney and Columbia Energy Group/Washington Gas.



Fairfax County Public Library
Volunteer Office
12000 Government Center Pkwy., Suite 324
Fairfax, VA 22035